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Audrey F. Sher

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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE RECEN

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1633

WITTEKIND ET AL.

Examiner: E. Sorbello

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

**APPLICATION NO: 09/965,594** 

FILED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2001

FOR: MODIFIED FORMS OF HEPATITIS C NS3 PROTEASE FOR

FACILITATING INHIBITOR SCREENING AND STRUCTURAL

STUDIES OF PROTEASE-INHIBITOR COMPLEXES

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Applicants believe this paper is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, and so under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) no fees are required. If a fee is deemed to be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-3880.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants wish to call the Examiner's attention to the references cited on the attached form(s) PTO-1449.

Copies of these references are enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is requested to consider the foregoing information in relation to this application and indicate that each reference was considered by returning a copy of the initialed PTO 1449 form(s).

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey F. Sher

Reg. No. 39,024

Attorney for Applicants

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company Patent Department P.O. Box 4000 Princeton, NJ 08543-4000 (609) 252-3218

Date: January 9, 2002

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APPLICANT
WITTEKIND ET AL.
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#### **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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	AA	5,371,017	12/6/94	Houghton et al.			
	AB	5,585,258	12/17/96	Houghton et al.			
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AM	WO 91/15575	10/17/91	PCT				
AN	WO 96/36702	11/21/96	PCT				
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial of reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.

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Sheet 4 of 6

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FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-85)

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